D/a 29/32

NEW SERIES—No. 3.

SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS

OF THE OFFICE OF THE

FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER, PUNJAB.

Published by Authority.

No. 29.

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Lahore:
THE "CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE" PRESS.
Contractors to the Punjab Government.
1885.

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1885
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SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS

OF THE

FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, No. 29.

No. LVII.—BARLEY CULTIVATION IN THE PUNJAB.

Note by Captain J. A. L. MONTGOMERY, Director of Settlements and Revenue Records, Punjab.

ON the 1st July 1884 Lieutenant-Colonel Wace, Commissioner of Settlements and Agriculture, addressed a letter to the officers noted in the margin, asking them to ascertain what principal varieties of barley were cultivated in their districts, and that they would send him one sér samples of the same, with a descriptive list in a prescribed form. His request was that the samples should be of fair average quality, that is to say, so chosen as to represent the average merit of each variety.

Deputy Commissioner, Delhi.
" " Gurgaon.
" " Hissar.
" " Sirsa
" " Ferozepore.
" " Gurdáspur.
" " Gujránwála.
" " Gujrat.
" " Peshâwar.
" " Hazára.
Settlement Officer, North-Umballa.
" " Ráwalpindi.

2. The reports and samples have been received from every officer addressed, as also a report from Mr. Dane, Assistant Commissioner of Kulu, forwarding samples of three different kinds of barley grown in Kulu. The annexed statement I. is a descriptive list of the barley samples received from the officers addressed; and in statement II. is shown the area under barley in every district of the Punjab, according to the returns of the last five years.

3. The reports received from Mr. A. Kensington, Settlement Officer of North-Umballa, Captain Egerton, Assistant Settlement Officer of Ráwalpindi, and Mr. L. Dane, Assistant Commissioner of Kulu, are published. It will be seen from the descriptive list that barley is grown principally for home consumption, and that there is scarcely any export of it. It is proposed to deposit the samples of barley in the Lahore Museum.

No. 210, dated 19th August 1884.

From A. KENSINGTON, Esquire, Settlement Officer, North-Umballa, to Lieut.-Colonel E. G. WACE, Commissioner of Settlements and Agriculture, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to furnish the report on barley required by your No. 1130, dated 8th ultimo.

2. There are only two recognised barleys grown in the district—

(1) Common desi husked jau, a hard white coarse-looking grain, grown with a rough husk which is not generally removed before grinding.

(2) Jawi, otherwise known as mouda or Kábuli jau, a soft dark coloured grain easily husked, and closely resembling wheat both in appearance and taste.

3. The two varieties are totally distinct. The desi is the hardier quality, best known to the zamíndárs, but not held in much esteem by them. It is often cut green for fodder, or if allowed to ripen, will be used for the payment of village artisans' dues. The zamíndárs themselves eat it, but do not care about it unless mixed with other grains. As a rule, it is considered a second class crop, and will not be sown on the fallow land, but as a chance crop on land which has already been cultivated for the kharíf harvest.

4. The Kábuli jau is a much finer class of grain, and is placed nearly on a par with wheat, but it cannot be grown without irrigation, and is, therefore, sown but little in this district, the greater part of which is essentially bárāni. In the Naráingarh tahsíl the seed is said to be imported from beyond the Jamna, where it is in greater request for canal lands. I have estimated that 10 per cent. of the total area under barley is sown with this finer variety, and probably this is an outside estimate for the part of the district which is included in this settlement.

5. I have estimated the area under barley for the four tahsíls under me at 12,000 acres. The area for the whole district on an average of the ten years, 1873-74 to 1882-83, is 50,000 acres according to the returns appended to the Annual Land Revenue Report. I believe that these figures largely overstate the extent of barley cultivation, and I find that the actual area of my four tahsíls for the present year, the first in which a trustworthy girdáwari has been made, is 8,727 acres only.

Copy of a Report on the varieties of Barley by Lieutenant F. W. Egerton, Assistant Settlement Officer, Ráwalpindi.

There is only one variety of barley cultivated in the district, that is, the common or "desi" barley.

2. The variety known as "paighambari," called also "roda" or smooth barley, is known, but is not approved of, by the cultivator, as the yield is very inferior to that of the common barley. "Desi" barley is cultivated to great perfection in the Ráwalpindi tahsíl, and the grain is both broader and longer than that of similar barley grown in other districts, and reaches greater perfection in this tahsíl than in the other tahsíls of this district. Country barley is cultivated both in irrigated and unirrigated lands.

3. I beg to forward samples of the barley grown in this district, namely, one sér of fair average quality for the district, and one sér of the barley grown in the Ráwalpindi tahsíl, reported superior to that of other districts.

Copy of a Letter No. 155, dated 1st November 1884, from the Assistant Commissioner, Kulu, to the Deputy Commissioner, Kángra.

In continuation of previous correspondence on the subject of wheat-barley, I have the honor to forward three specimens of this barley which I procured in Lahaul last summer.

No. 1, *Thaugzát.*—This is the worst of the three varieties, and is not grown in Spiti at all.

In Lahaul it is grown on inferior high lands, and for these it is good, as it ripens in three months. The average outturn is about six-fold. In appearance and qualities it resembles No. 3.

No. 2, *Sarmu.*—This is a remarkably fine white huskless barley, with full round grains standing in six tiers. It can at once be distinguished from No. 3, as the ears are shorter and plumper, and stand erect with a short beard. The outturn in Lahaul is eight or nine-fold, and in the more favoured climate of Spiti it is said to be as high as 20-fold, and the crop is certainly much finer than in Lahaul. In both countries *Sarmu* is used for flour, &c., and is also largely consumed in the form of *Sathu*. To make this the grain is slightly parched and then crushed. In Spiti with butter milk or as gruel it forms the staple diet of the people.

No. 3, *Sabzat in Lahaul, Zaizie in Spiti.*—The time the crop takes to ripen and the outturn is nearly the same as for No. 2. The grain is bluish in colour, and stands in six tiers on the ears, which are much longer and with longer beards than those of *Sarmu*, and instead of standing erect, droop like the ears of ordinary barley. This grain also gives a fine crop, but is more liable to mildew than *Sarmu*. In Spiti the two crops are frequently grown together. *Sabzat* is largely used in distilling *chung* and *arak*. The former of these spirrits is ver like poor Scotch Whisky, and is much used in Spiti.

The generic names for barley are *Zat* in Lahaul *Ne* in Spiti.

In the upper valley of the Biás above Barsai a huskless barley resembling *Sabzat* is grown, but the outturn is not greater than that yielded by the ordinary barley, so that it is not much thought of by the Kulu people.

The grain too is not as fine as the Lahaul and Spiti grain. This would rather appear to show that the crop does better in the dry climate of the Trans-Himalayan tracts than it would do in India proper.

I.—DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF BARLEY SAMPLES FROM CERTAIN DISTRICTS OF THE PUNJAB.

(N.B.—The figures are given in hundreds of acres, 00 being omitted.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
District.	Tahsil.	Local name.	Estimated Area of Crop represented by each Sample stated very roughly by Hundreds of Acres. Irrigated.	Sailáb.	Báráni.	Total.	Present price (sérs of 80 tolas per rupee).	Whether usually irrigated or raised on the rain-fall.	Whether grown for home use or for export; and, in the latter case, to what places exported?
DELHI.	Delhi ...	Jau ...	87	12	125	224	24	In the Delhi and Ballabgarh tahsils the crops are mostly raised on the rain-fall, but in the Sonepat tahsíl the case is reverse.	Grown for home use only; the surplus quantities were 3 or 4 years ago exported to Murree, Dehra Dun, and Shahjahanpur for beer manufacture, but such exports have since ceased, as preference seems now to be given to the barley of the Gurgaon district.
	Sonepat ...	,, ...	50	...	...	50	26		
	Ballabgarh ...	,, ...	61	25	304	390	26		
		Total ...	198	37	429	664	25 average.		
GURGAON.	Gurgaon ...	Jau ...	140	50	100	290	24½	Irrigated as well as raised on the rain-fall.	Grown for home use, also for export. Exported towards Ráwalpindi and other places in Punjab.
	Riwári ...	,, ...	280	...	10	290	25½		Two-thirds for home consumption and one-third exported towards Umballa and Sahâranpur.
	Palwal ...	,, ...	80	120	80	280	23		Grown for home consumption.
	Nuh ...	,, ...	100	70	110	280	24		Ditto.
	Fírozpur ...	,, ...	140	30	20	190	26½		Ditto.
		Total ...	740	270	320	1,330	24½ average.		
SIRSA.	Sirsa ...	Jau ...	...	2	133	135	...	Raised generally on rain-fall.	A large portion of the produce is consumed in the district, but some of it is also exported to Bhiwáni, in the Hissar district; Rohtak and Delhi and Rewári, in the Gurgaon district; and to the Native States of Alwar and Narnol in the Patiála State.
	Dabwáli ...	,, ...	...	...	252	252	...		
	Fázilka ...	,, ...	4	...	529	533	...		
		Total ...	4	2	914	920	27		
HISSAR.	Hissar ...	Jau ...	10	...	...	10	Irrigated 24 sérs, Báráni 28 sérs.	Irrigated as well as unirrigated	For home use only.
	Hánsi ...	,, ...	30	...	80	110			
	Bhiwáni ...	,, ...	10	...	...	10			
	Fatahabad ...	,, ...	...	40	500	540			
	Barwála ...	,, ...	...	40	140	180			
		Total ...	50	80	720	850	...		
NORTH-UMBALLA.	Umballa ...	Desi Jau ...	...	1	32	33	...	Not generally irrigated. Grows well on rain land.	For home use only.
	Kharar ...	,, ...	...	3	17	20			
	Rupar ...	,, ...	3	4	13	20			
	Naráingarh ...	,, ...	1	1	35	37			
		Total ...	4	9	97	110	30		
	Umballa ...	Kábuli or Mouda Jau or Jawi ...	1	...	...	1	...	Can only be grown with irrigation or in good sailáb land.	For home use only. The price is a rough estimate, as there is no grain of this kind now for sale in the market.
	Kharar ...		2	...	...	2			
	Rupar ...		5	1	...	6			
	Naráingarh ...		1	...	...	1			
		Total ...	9	1	...	10	25		
		Total District ...	13	10	97	120	...		
FEROZEPORE.	Ferozepore ...	Desi Jau ...	70	80	243	393	...	Raised on the rain-fall ...	Grown for both home use and export. Exported to Ludhiána and Umballa districts.
	Moga ...	,, ...	117	...	541	658			
	Mukatsar...	,, ...	49	120	240	409			
	Zira ...	,, ...	20	...	100	120			
		Total ...	256	200	1,124	1,580	40		
	Zira ...	Ghona ...	...	30	...	30	...	...	Grown for home use only.
		Total District ...	256	230	1,124	1,610			

I.—DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF BARLEY SAMPLES FROM CERTAIN DISTRICT OF THE PUNJAB—*concluded*.

(*N.B.—The figures are given in hundreds of acres, 00 being omitted.*)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Estimated area of crop represented by each sample stated very roughly by hundreds of acres.						
District.	Tahsil.	Local name.	Irrigated.	Sailáb.	Báráni.	Total.	Present price (sérs of 80 tolas per rupee).	Whether usually irrigated or raised on the rain-fall.	Whether grown for home use or for export; and, in the latter case, to what places exported?
GURDASPUR.	Gurdáspur	Khasarwála ...	40	110	20	170	48	Usually raised on rain-fall ...	Grown for home use only.
	Shakargarh	"	10	50	320	380	54		
	Pathánkot	"	10	10	50	70	46		
	Batála	"	10	20	20	50	50		
	Do.	Ghona	1	1	3	5	40		
		Total ...	71	191	413	675	48 average.		
RAWALPINDI.	Ráwalpindi	Desi Jau	4	1	70	75	58	Both	Does not leave the district. There is a small internal trade between the tahsíls, but generally speaking barley is grown for home consumption.
	Attock	"	53	2	81	136	60		
	Kahúta	"	...	...	8	8	40		
	Murree	"	...	...	4	4	34		
	Pindigheb	"	12	1	41	54	60		
	Gujar Khan	"	1	...	41	42	50		
	Fatahjang	...	16	5	56	77	50		
		Total ...	86	9	301	396	50 average.		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GUJRAT.	Gujrat	Jau	60	33	149	242	49	Jau or barley sown on *cháhi* land is watered from wells, and that sown on báráni land is raised on the rain-fall.	Barley is grown in this district for home use, and it is not exported.
	Khárián	"	4	15	136	155	40		
	Phalia	"	54	40	48	142	40		
		Total ...	118	88	333	539	43 average.		
GUJRANWALA.	Gujránwála	Desi Jau	260	5	25	290	...	Usually raised on irrigated land, and to some extent on báráni land.	Grown for home use only.
	Wazírábád	"	160	20	10	190	...		
	Háfizábád	"	100	20	10	130	...		
		Total ...	520	45	45	610	44		
	Do.	Paighambari ...	...	...	...	...	...	Irrigated ...	Is a fancy article and not usually in the market. Grown for home use.
PESHAWAR.	Peshâwar	Jau Khárdár ...	130	5	57	192	54	See cols. 4-6.	The description of barley entered in this statement is generally grown throughout the district. It is chiefly grown for home use, and is very seldom or never exported.
	Doába Dándzai	"	135	...	11	146	58		
	Naushahra	"	86	33	304	423	48		
	Hashtnagar	"	52	4	280	336	58		
	Mardán	"	60	20	800	880	64		
	Utmán Bolak	"	150	...	287	437	64		
		Total ...	613	62	1,739	2,414	58 average.		
HAZARA.	Abbott-abad	Watni Jau	10	...	150	160	...	Dependent on rain-fall ...	Grown for local consumption, a small quantity only exported to Ráwalpindi.
	Haripur	"	50	...	250	300	...		
	Mansehra	"	...	...	220	220	...		
		Total ...	60	...	620	680	48 average.		
	Haripur	Paighambari Jau ...	...	...	...	...	...	Irrigated ...	For home consumption.

II.—STATEMENT SHOWING THE AREA UNDER BARLEY IN EVERY DISTRICT IN THE PUNJAB. (FIGURES IN BOLD TYPE ARE FROM TOTALS IN STATEMENT I.)

(*N.B.—The figures are given in hundreds of acres, 00 being omitted.*)

Division.	District.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Average.	Remarks.
DELHI.	Delhi	791	822	748	633	660	731 **664**	
	Gurgaon	1,669	1,350	1,418	1,032	911	1,276 **1,330**	
	Karnál	437	445	391	280	297	370	
HISSAR.	Hissar	1,124	988	970	1,069	813	993 **850**	
	Rohtak	556	467	272	303	304	380	
	Sirsa	1,484	1,501	539	1,418	1,609	1,310 **920**	
UMBALLA.	Umballa	605	598	383	483	305	475 **120**	For whole district. For four tahsíls only.
	Ludhiána...	534	1,486	409	279	239	590	
	Simla	31	30	30	33	23	30	
JULLUNDUR.	Jullundur...	226	179	152	118	97	154	
	Hoshiárpur	43	317	339	218	239	231	
	Kángra	556	650	679	829	891	721	
AMRITSAR.	Amritsar	370	416	408	292	455	388	
	Gurdáspur	944	962	835	905	848	899 **675**	
	Siálkot	1,171	1,161	1,036	994	1,010	1,075	
LAHORE.	Lahore	610	455	398	371	346	436	
	Gujránwála	905	1,098	868	756	676	860 **610**	
	Ferozepore	1,844	1,550	1,342	1,394	1,498	1,526 **1,610**	
RAWALPINDI.	Ráwalpindi	372	510	584	394	289	430 **396**	
	Jhelum	395	420	505	538	464	464	
	Gujrat	532	549	489	486	490	509 **539**	
	Shahpur	92	95	95	90	123	99	
MOOLTAN.	Mooltan	106	90	75	76	48	79	
	Jhang	62	61	62	88	76	70	
	Montgomery	222	180	147	140	131	164	
	Muzaffargarh	110	115	115	112	100	110	
DERAJAT.	Dera Ismail Khan ...	241	284	223	218	214	236	
	Dera Ghází Khan ...	168	59	61	59	92	88	
	Bannu	419	432	347	462	393	411	
PESHAWAR.	Pesháwar	1,417	944	1,267	1,585	2,230	1,489 **2,414**	
	Hazára	689	685	694	720	644	686 **680**	
	Kohát	200	200	188	109	304	200	
	Total	18,925	19,099	16,069	16,484	16,819	17,480	